

Food and Nutrition Services

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MEAL PROGRAMS DURING THE SUMMER OF 2014!

With Spring around the corner, the time is now for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to begin enrolling in summer meal programs for its student population. Summer food programs, such as those offered by our schools help address a food insecurity that exists in our communities.

There are three meal programs available as options to LEAs offering a food program in congruent with an educational program during the summer:



- The Regular **National School Lunch Program (NSLP)** and/or **School Breakfast Program (SBP)** and....
- The **Seamless Summer Option (SSO)**. Both of these programs are administered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), Food and Nutrition Services (FNS).
- The **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)** is administered by the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS).

For starters, LEAs choosing regular **NSLP/SBP** can proceed under its current LEA application which is effective through June 30, 2014. The application includes

both regular and summer meals. Should summer school proceed past June 30, 2014 a new LEA application must be completed. Once submitted and approved, the LEA application will apply through the school year 2014-2015.

LEAs interested in enrolling or learning more about the **SFSP** as coordinated by DHSS are best served by contacting the Department directly at

<http://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/nutrition/foodprograms/sfsp/index.php>.

Contact information, online application and claims are available plus much more.

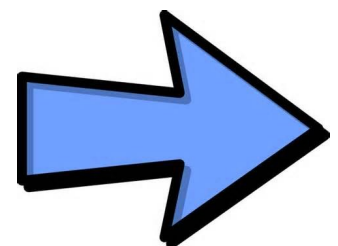
Seamless Summer Option (SSO)

The SSO is designed to encourage the sponsorship of a summer feeding program for children in low-income areas during the summer and other school vacation periods.

Once approved as a SSO school site, LEAs can serve free of charge to all children, with the exception of camps. To be eligible, there are five types of sites LEAs can fall under.

- **Area Eligible**
 - Open
 - Restricted open
- OR
- **Enrolled**
 - Closed enrolled
 - Camps
 - Migrant

We will take a closer look at each category in more detail in the following pages.



*“According to
USDA in 2012,
16 million children
are living in food
insecure
households”*

SSO—Area Eligible

To qualify as an Open Site:

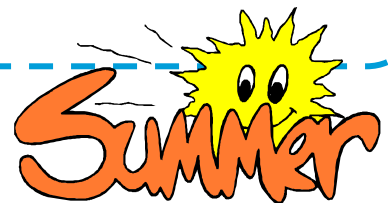
- School sites would serve all children up to 18 years of age.
- Sites are located within the geographical boundary of school attendance area that is at least 50% of children approved for free or reduced priced (FR) school meals.
- Meals are reimbursed at free school meal rates for all meals served to children.

To qualify as a Restricted Open Site:

- Sites would serve children on a first-come, first serve basis through age 18.
- Site is located within the geographical boundary of a school attendance area that has at least 50% of children approved for FR school meals.
- Attendance would be limited for reasons of security, safety or

control.

- Meals are reimbursed at free school meal rates for all meals served to children.



SSO—Enrolled

To qualify as a Closed Site:

- School sites would serve only children through age 18 in a specific program or activity.
- Meals reimbursed are reimbursed at free school meal rates when the site has at least 50% of enrolled children approved for FR price meals.

- Only meals served to children through age 18 who are eligible for free or reduced price school meals may be reimbursed.
- Meals reimbursed at the free school meals rates would apply for eligible children served.
- Meals served to ineligible children are not reimbursed; camps may charge ineligible children for meals.

- Meals are reimbursed at free school meal rates for all meals served to children.

In addition to School sites meeting either an **area eligible or enrolled** definitions, school sites must, for one, advertise the summer meal program to its community of children. A prototype flyer is available for the school to use. And secondly, school sites are to complete an on-site self review during the first three weeks of operation and kept filed on site. Both documents are available here on the [DESE Food and Nutrition Services Website](#).

Schools sponsored Camps would qualify if:

- The camps are either residential or non-residential (day camps)
- Must offer regularly scheduled food service as part of an organized program for enrolled children.
- Eligibility must be established for each enrolled child.

Schools serving Migrant Children for a SSO would need to meet the following criteria:

- Primarily serving children through age 18 of migrant families, as certified by a migrant coordinator.



Sample promotional
advertisement

Applying for Seamless Summer Option

To apply for the SSO, the School Food Authority (SFA) is directed to **DESE's Web application**. Under "School Food Services", the SFA can select "application packet" then "seamless summer". The SFA will be guided to answer a series of questions related to contact information and period of operation.

Deadline for accepting SSO applications will be close of business, Thursday, May 15, 2014.

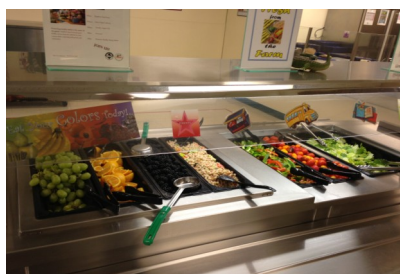
Packet Assigned To: unassigned

| Action | Form Name | Latest Version | Status |
|---------|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| View | ✓ LEA Application | Original | Approved |
| Details | ✓ Meal Pattern Compliance Dashboard | | Approved |
| Details | Checklist Summary | | No checklist items |
| Details | Application Packet Notes (1) | | |
| Details | Attachment List | | |

| Building Applications | Approved | Pending | Return for Correction | Denied | Withdrawn/ Closed | Error | Total Applications |
|--------------------------|----------|---------|-----------------------|--------|-------------------|-------|--------------------|
| School Nutrition Program | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Seamless Summer | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Show Packet History

Rainbow Days: Promote your Salad Bar this Summer!



What are the benefits of sponsoring a **Rainbow Day Event** this summer in

your school's cafeteria? Here are a few reasons to consider:

- It's a perfect marketing opportunity of your lunch program!
- It offers a "fresh" idea to educate the community about your work.
- It takes advantage of summer's plentiful produce at its peak in flavor and freshness!

- You get incentives such as aprons for your staff, colorful poster and stickers for the elementary children!
- And not to forget a **\$200 stipend** for your efforts!

Registrations are being accepted now at: <http://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/nutrition/rainbowdayprojects/>

Free Resources for National Nutrition Month!

March is National Nutrition Month and the National Education Association (NEA) highlights free resources applicable for the school setting. Take a look!

1. [Start School with Breakfast: A Guide to Increasing School Breakfast Participation](#) describe benefits, strategies, tools plus more.
2. [Bag the Junk](#) provides resources for the adult school community to champion healthy snack foods and beverages.
3. [Super Crew for Kids](#) provides nutritional information and fun for grades K-5.
4. [Fizzy's Lunch Lab](#) is a website for grades K-5 containing

recipes, weekly "webisodes" and games.

5. [Dining Decisions](#) for grades 6-8 explore through the Dining Decisions Game for making wise choices.
6. [Escape From DIAB](#) challenges grades 6-8 to make wise food and exercise choices to escape from chronic disease.

For these and more free resources go to:

www.nea.org/tools/lessons/10-free-things-



UPDATES: MEAL PATTERN REQUIREMENTS

- FLEXIBILITIES of MAXIMUMS for GRAINS applies to BREAKFAST and LUNCH
- FLEXIBILITIES of MAXIMUMS for MEATS and MEAT ALTERNATES applies to LUNCH
- FROZEN FRUIT with ADDED SUGAR now ALLOWED FOR BREAKFAST OR LUNCH

The permanent lift of maximum amounts of food to a meal pattern was made to help SFAs make the transition to the new requirements. It is important for menu planners to remember that adding additional foods to the menus will increase calories and possibly saturated fat. Therefore, menu planners should be careful to ensure that any adjustments to menus continue to meet the weekly dietary specifications.



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